

CONCEPT NOTE

Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations

A Roundtable Discussion on Accelerating Biodiversity Action: Our Opportunity, Our Responsibility Towards a Healthy Planet for the Prosperity of All

Date: Thursday 12 May 2022 (9:00-13:00)

Erawan Phang-nga, Khok Kloi, Takua Thung, Phang-nga

Hybrid Meeting (In-person and ZOOM, with English-Thai and Thai-English Interpretation)

Objective

In preparation for the Stockholm+50 international meeting convened by the United Nations General Assembly to be held in Stockholm, Sweden from 2-3 June 2022, the Embassy of Sweden in Thailand and UNDP in Thailand are hosting a roundtable discussion intended to inform key actors and the general public about Stockholm+50 and to facilitate the sharing of people's views, opinions, and expectations on Thailand's path toward environmental sustainability and sustainable development through conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity that can be taken forward in the High-level Leadership Dialogue discussions at the Stockholm+50 international meeting.

Background

To enhance action and sustainable transformation agenda launched at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972, the Government of Sweden with support of the Government of Kenya will host a crucial international meeting under the theme "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity." Leading up to the Stockholm+50 international meeting, national level consultations will be held under UNDP's leadership in a number of countries, including Thailand. The objective of the national consultations is to stimulate an inclusive whole-of-society and whole-of-government dialogue on the three main themes of Stockholm+50 Leadership Dialogues and priority themes as they relate to the national context.

Biological diversity, or biodiversity, is the key indicator of the health of an ecosystem. Healthy ecosystems provide services (or natural capital) that are the basis for human well-being including basic materials for life (such as freshwater, fertile soil, food, medicines, genetic resources, terrestrial and marine products), the ability of the atmosphere to cleanse itself of pollution and regulate the climate, health support system (such as disease regulation), human security and well-being (such as natural hazard protection), and social relations (such as places of spiritual and

religious value, knowledge system). While a variety of species and the ecosystem as a whole will adapt and survive in environmental changes and challenges, the degradation of a specific ecosystem and the extinction of a species may have unforeseen impacts on the entire ecosystems and their services. The multitude of human drivers of change has significant negative repercussions on the ability of ecosystems to provide these services to human and all species.

Biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation are expected to continue or accelerate to an unprecedented level worldwide. Principles 1-4 of the Stockholm Declaration (1972) acknowledge the need for restraint on natural resource use, consistent with the carrying capacity of the earth, for the benefit of present and future generations. The Rio Declaration (1992) expands on the sustainable development theme and significantly advances the concept through the adoption of a multilateral agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Aside from the CBD, there are several global agreements addressing different aspects of biodiversity (the Convention on Migratory Species, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, etc.), affirming that the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern. The 15th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) in Kunming, China during the third or fourth quarter of 2022 will adopt the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. A healthy planet, with a rich biodiversity and functioning ecosystems, is the foundation to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Thailand's unique biodiversity is supported by a large variety of ecosystems, landscapes, seascapes, and habitats, most of which are also greatly threatened by climate change and human activity. The country derives large benefits from ecosystem services in watersheds, river basins and coastal areas. To conserve the ecosystem health and biodiversity, Thailand's key directives, policies and initiatives on biodiversity are developed and implemented. Measures adopted to enhance implementation of CDB in Thailand include the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) conforming to the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, the 20-year National Strategy, and the National Economic and Social Development Plans. A Biodiversity Finance Plan is developed in line with the Biodiversity Policy and Institutional Review (PIR), the Biodiversity Expenditure Review (BER), and the Financial Needs Assessment (FNA) in response to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). The new NBSAP is being prepared aligned with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be agreed at CBD COP15 (Kunming, China).

Purpose of Roundtable Discussion

Against this background, with overall objective of Stockholm+50, the roundtable discussion will be an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the participants and to highlight an environmentally sustainable development approach in the Thai context. Outcomes of the roundtable discussion, which will be included into the national consultation report, emphasize the urgent actions for government and non-government actors to conserve and sustainably use of biodiversity and ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetics

resources as well as to put biodiversity on a sustainable path to nature's recovery by 2030 for the benefit of planet and people. Based on the three themes of Leadership Dialogues expecting to contribute to the outcome of Stockholm+50, the discussion will focus on Thailand's conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and particularly of the southern Thailand to engage governments, business and the private sector, academics, civil society, ethnic minority and local communities, youth, and other relevant stakeholders to exploit opportunities and overcome challenges to implementation of SDGs in the local context.

Leadership Dialogue 1: Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all, where aspirations and rights can be fulfilled and which focus on the need to live in harmony with nature, ecosystems restoration, including how we measure and define wealth and prosperity, and integrate human development and planetary pressures with a focus on social equity, ecological security, and economic prosperity.

Leadership dialogue 2: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on actions needed to recover and build forward from the pandemic and its adverse impacts on people, planet and prosperity; and to put the world back on track to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. This could be through a focus on sectors most affected by COVID-19, through rethinking financing, social protection schemes for the informal sector, policies for circularity and sustainable consumption and production, digitalization, where job creation, skills building, and capacity enhancement form a central part of the just transition for all countries and in particular for the poorest and most vulnerable.

Leadership dialogue 3: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context of the Decade of Action, with a focus on the means (i.e., multi-level governance, institutions, multilateral frameworks, and commitments highlighting accountability, accessibility, and incentives) necessary to implement commitments and actions, ensuring delivery on the 2030 Agenda (SDGs), the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and the national implementation plans of the emerging Global Biodiversity Framework.

The roundtable will seek to achieve three primary goals:

- Communications and discussions – The roundtable will give an opportunity to hear from the speakers and the participants their perspectives and views, including concerns and recommendations for achieving environmental sustainability in the context of biological diversity in line with the three of Leadership Dialogues;
- Identification of issues and responses to challenges – The roundtable will attempt to map out the primary issues relating to the relationships between biological diversity and environmental sustainability in the context of Stockholm+50 (i.e., climate change, nature and its services, pollution, COVID-19, and SDGs), examining both positive and negative effects of these relationships, and to identify possible responses to challenges identified; and,
- Avenues for cooperation – The roundtable will explore possible avenues for future cooperation between and among various partners and stakeholders (i.e., public, private,

CSOs, IOs, and academic sectors), youth, local community and ethnic groups, and other vulnerable groups on the topic of biological diversity for SDGs and Stockholm+50.

Structure of the Roundtable

The roundtable discussion will be conducted in a hybrid mode, both in-person (at the Erawan Phang-nga Hotel) and virtually on Zoom meeting with simultaneous translation and live streaming to UNDP Thailand Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDPThailand>. The roundtable will last over approximately four hours (9:00-13.00 hrs.), consisting of three sessions. In each session, two (2) speakers will make short presentations (up to 10 minutes each) with a moderator to introduce the topic and the speakers at the beginning of the session as well as to stimulate the discussion. This will be followed by a session discussion facilitated by the moderator (25-30 minutes).

Participants

Participants will include representatives from governments, civil society, business and private sector, women, youth, local communities and ethnic groups, academia, international organizations, and relevant networks and associations as well as professionals whose work and experience involve biological diversity for sustainable development or SDGs, environmental conservation and management, and sustainable development.

Program and Agenda

Time	Agenda
09:00-13:00	Master of Ceremonies (MC) – Mr. Kesrat Sukasam, UNDP Thailand
09:00-09:35	Keynote Session – Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations on Accelerating Biodiversity Action
09:00-09:05	Welcome and Introduction
09:05-09:15	Welcome/Keynote Address by Mr. Chamroen Thipphayaphongthada, the Governor of Phang-nga Province (tbc)
09:15-09:25	Keynote Address by H.E. Mr. Kiptiness Lindsay Kimwole, the Ambassador of Kenya to Thailand
09:25-09:35	Keynote Address by Mr. Renaud Meyer, UNDP Resident Representative in Thailand
09:35-10:30	Roundtable Discussion Session I: <i>Reflecting on Actions to Achieve a Healthy Planet and Prosperity of All</i> <u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Sukanya Thongthumrong, UNDP Thailand
09:35-09:40	Welcome and Introduction

Time	Agenda
09:40-09:50	<p><i>Restoring and Regenerating a Positive Relationship with Nature: What are some urgent actions needed for state and non-state actors to scale up the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity to regenerate a positive relationship with nature?</i></p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Ms. Thanaporn Trakuldit, Royal Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (via Zoom)</p>
09:50-10:00	<p><i>Building and Restoring Sustainable and Resilient Relationship with Nature for Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups: How could marginalized and vulnerable groups benefit from biodiversity initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)?</i></p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Mr. Maitri Jongkrajak, Manager, Chumchon Thai Foundation</p>
10:00-10:30	<p><i>Session Discussion I: What are the indicators needed for evaluating the performance of biological diversity conservation and sustainable use towards a healthier and more prosperous planet? How can conserving biological diversity help safeguard or protect the rights of people and nature? What policies or measures are needed to be in place for applying and upscaling biodiversity initiatives to safeguard the nature and the people who depend on it? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?</i></p>
10:30-11:25	<p>Roundtable Discussion Session II: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Dr. Anuk Serechetapongse, UNDP Thailand</p>
10:30-10:35	Welcome and Introduction
10:35-10:45	<p><i>Shaping an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery: What are the most promising equitable, sustainable and inclusive recovery initiatives/practices currently being applied in the context of biodiversity? How could we scale them up?</i></p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Ms. Suwanna Tiansuwan, Director General, Biodiversity-Based Economy Development Office (tbc)</p>
10:45-10:55	<p><i>Better Performing Industries and Supply Chains for a Just Transition: How can the conservation of biological diversity help creating better performing industries and supply chains for a just transition to more sustainable economies? which sectors are most critical?</i></p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Mr. Bhumikitti Raktae-ngam, President of Phuket Tourism Association (tbc)</p>
10:55-11:25	<p><i>Session Discussion II: How has conserving biological diversity contributed to creating decent green jobs? What are the decent green jobs of the</i></p>

Time	Agenda
	future? What are the new skills needed from business, government, and academic? How do we ensure that all communities can benefit from opportunities stemming from a sustainable and just transition? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
11:25-11:55	Break – coffee/tea served
11:55-12:50	Roundtable Discussion Session III: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context of the Decade of Action, focusing on biodiversity and NBSAP <u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Sukanya Thongthumrong, UNDP Thailand
11:55-12:00	Welcome and Introduction
12:00-12:10	<i>An Enabling Environment for Delivery on the Ground:</i> How can the conservation of biological diversity support for delivery environmentally sustainable development on the ground? What policies and incentives are needed from the public and private sectors to create a supportive enabling environment for financing biodiversity? <u>Speaker:</u> Dr. Supaporn Anuchirachewa, Managing Director, Pla Organic Social Enterprise Company Limited (tbc)
12:10-12:20	<i>Partnership for a Green, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Transformation:</i> What type of partnerships from a private sector perspective are needed to accelerate a green and sustainable economic transformation that leaves no one behind? <u>Speaker:</u> Mr. Wuthichai Sithipreedanant, Advisor, Global Compact Network Thailand (tbc)
12:20-12:50	<i>Session Discussion III:</i> What are the biggest challenges we are facing in implementing and achieving SDGs, biodiversity action, climate action, and other environment-related measures? What capacities and resources (i.e., finance, technologies) are needed to improve human wellbeing in harmony with nature? What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
12:50-13:00	Closing: Remarks by Ms. Lina Eidmark, Counsellor, Embassy of Sweden in Thailand

Registration

To participate, please complete the online registration form at:

https://undp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlduGspzkoGN2BUVhZtNXVf-K8w7sbL4_M.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, in-person audience is limited (approximately 50-60 persons). All in-person participants must have a negative COVID test before entering the venue. Masks must cover a participants nose and mouth at all times during the meeting. Please keep a minimum distance of one meter to others at all times. Hand sanitizers will be installed right outside of the meeting room.

To participate in the Stockholm+50 National Consultation Roundtable Discussion via Zoom, please complete the online registration form at:

https://undp.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlduGspzkoGN2BUVhZtNXVf-K8w7sbL4_M

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Online Survey

Please participate in *an online survey (in Thai language)* by scanning the QR code below, or clicking here: <https://forms.gle/dNzZ2FoGqTfKC2PQ7>. Thank you for completing the survey by 15 May 2022.



For more information on the Stockholm+50 Thailand National Consultations and related activities, we are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, or please send us an email at undp.thailand@undp.org as well as visit the *Stockholm+50 websites* at: [Stockholm website](#) or [the sparkblue channel](#).

To help us capture the opinions of people around the world on the world's progress towards a sustainable planet, please participate in *a global survey* to inform the Stockholm+50 Global High-Level meeting in Stockholm at: <https://www.stockholm50.global/state-planet-global-public-survey>.